



END OF SESSION — SF 358 — SEARCH WARRANTS, ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS TO COURT

Description: [Senate File 358](#) allows for the application for and issuance of a search warrant by electronic means. The Act permits the Judicial Branch to establish the processes and procedures for the electronic submission of an application for and issuance of a search warrant. In addition, SF 358 allows for the written inventory of any property seized to be filed with the clerk of the district court. The effective date of the Act is contingent on the effective date of rules prescribed by the Supreme Court and submitted to the Legislative Council that establish processes and procedures to implement this Act.

Fiscal Impact: Senate File 358 does not have a fiscal impact because it does not mandate immediate implementation of an electronic submission system. An electronic submission system for the application for and issuance of search warrants would not be implemented until the necessary technology funds are available within the Judicial Branch operating budget. The estimated cost of completing the project is approximately \$75,000. The costs and possible savings will vary depending on several factors, including the ability of local law enforcement systems to interface with the Court's electronic document management system. The electronic submission system may allow for some savings as a result of reduced processing costs and greater efficiency in the application and issuance process.

Enactment Date: This Act was approved by the General Assembly on April 3, 2017, and signed by the Governor on April 12, 2017.

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